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## Today's Post Bag

## THE WEATHER

	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Jerusalem	13	15	18	20	22	24	26	28
Haifa	10	12	15	18	20	22	24	26
Tel Aviv	12	14	17	19	21	23	25	27
Beersheba	11	13	16	18	20	22	24	26
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FORECAST: Partly cloudy with sun.

Sunday: No change.

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## Shomer Hatzair Says Microphone Planted in Ya'ari's Desk

TEL AVIV, Thursday. — A tiny radio transmitter with a microphone was discovered a few days ago hidden in the desk of Mr. Meir Ya'ari, M.K., at the Kibbutz Ha'arti offices here, according to Mr. Nathan Pelled, secretary-general of the movement. This was revealed at a press conference called in Mr. Ya'ari's room today.

Two youths were caught last night by Kibbutz Ha'arti watchmen when they entered Mr. Ya'ari's office using a duplicate key. One of them reportedly said he was acting on behalf of the Mapei Party. After being kept by their captors until daylight, the two were handed over to the police.

The police had not been informed of the discovery of the microphone, Mr. Pelled said. Asked why the watchmen did not tell the police immediately after capturing the two suspects, Mr. Pelled said:

"We wanted to know first who the men were. He said one of them was reportedly found to be in possession of original documents on a 'listening-in course.' The documents were handed over to the police, Mr. Pelled said.

The microphone-transmitter, the size of a cigarette case, was shown to the pressmen. The set is fed by batteries and it was assumed, Mr. Pelled said, that the youths were coming to change the battery. A small screwdriver was said to have been found in the pocket of one of the youths.

The police are expected to charge the youths with attempted house breaking. They are Abraham Barak, 21, of Jerusalem, and Shimon Zohar, 21, of Tel Aviv. They said the police wanted to "do something" as a protest because, being members of the Kibbutz Ha'arti, they had been used by the movement to spread propaganda.

The Mapei Centre tonight issued a statement that any attempt to install a transmitter with Mapei was "absolutely prohibited."

The Jerusalem Municipality has decided to grant five scholarships to 15 students of the city's secondary schools who will graduate this year with honours.

EIGHTY CULTURAL and welfare organizations yesterday issued a public appeal to Jerusalem landowners to reduce the rent on rooms rented to students by 10 per cent.

CONVICTED of causing the death of four-year-old Yochved Mordechai through negligent driving in Pithul, Eliahu Ben-Zion, 28, was yesterday sentenced to prison for five years and had his driving license revoked for a year by a Tel Aviv magistrate.

THE REHOVOT labour exchanges in Kibbutz and Akir were closed down yesterday after a district ban on unemployed workers who prevented the clerks from opening the rent on rooms rented to students by 10 per cent.

THREE PERSONS were detained in Jerusalem yesterday on charges of committing immoral acts with minors. One of the persons was picked out in an identification parade of more than 40 persons by a seven-year-old girl.

THE ROOMING of the Ramat Aviv Hotel, Tel Aviv, was broken into on Tuesday night and two vacuum cleaners, 100 candles and a water hose reportedly worth a total of IL1,000 were stolen. Three men, residents of Jaffa, in whose possession police say they found part of the stolen goods, were detained yesterday.

A MILITARY court in Acre yesterday sentenced Ben-Zion Danari, 28, of Fustat in Upper Galilee, to a year's imprisonment and IL200 fine for robbing a German gun in usable condition and four bullets.

**New Shipping Line Starting Up**  
LYDDA AIRPORT, Thursday (JTM). — The new "Israel-American-Disencliff" shipping line, established by the merger of the Zim and Disencliff lines should start operating on the North Atlantic route at the beginning of next month, Mr. Zeev Shind, Zim director, said today before leaving for the U.S. by EL in connection with the merger. Only formalities now remain to be settled, he said.

Mr. Shind said that the line would begin operating with six vessels, three of them formerly belonging to Disencliff. He would investigate possibilities of purchasing additional ships, including a passenger vessel, and exchanging old cargo ships for newer ones.

**ROKACH MEETS DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES**  
District Representatives from various parts of the country conferred yesterday in Jerusalem with the Minister of Interior, Mr. I. Rokach, and the Director-General, Mr. A. Moal, on the problems of reorganizing the Ministry.

In an effort to decentralize the work, it is believed that the functions of the Representatives will be increased to permit them to handle questions until now within the province of the Jerusalem office.

**COPPER FOUND IN JENIN AREA**  
Copper has been found near Araba village in the Jenin district, "A-Diffa," the Old City daily reports. U.N. experts have been called to determine the extent of the deposit.

**RATION NEWS**  
JERUSALEM: White flour: 200 grams, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888



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Friday, January 26, 1955  
No. 14, 1955 - Founded in 1922

### THE action of the Minister of Interior in imposing a temporary ban on the Communist newspaper "Kol Ha'am" will be received with mixed feelings by all true liberals.

But in fact public reaction to the ban on "Kol Ha'am" has been very balanced and sane. One must dismiss the unforgivable and stupid attempts at arson on the Russian bookshop in Jerusalem and the reckless burning of books with all its memories of the seditious and Jewish nationalist for them to do other than condemn without qualification such un-Jewish manifestations as these incidents represent. They could hardly have been taken as indications that the authorities of "Kol Ha'am" have seriously threatened the public peace.

It will be argued as always on these occasions that the Communist Party, by their outlawing of freedom have only themselves to blame if they receive similar treatment to that they have allowed, it will be said, to degenerate into harmful licence and richly deserve to be hit with their own petard.

Such a viewpoint, however, is too hasty. True liberty and true liberalism, armed at every point as they are with the invincible mark of truth, can afford to be almost infinitely long suffering and tolerant.

TODAY is the twentieth anniversary of the accession of Hitler to power in Germany, an event which tolled the death knell of the Jewish people in Europe. Before even a generation has passed more than two million Jews of the Soviet and its satellites have been perished in a position of grave peril. The labour camp, the forced march into Siberian exile and the concentration camps are less spectacular but as remorseless as Hitler's fiendish devices.

It will be recalled that one of the most tragic failures of the pre-war Hitler era was the international conference at Evian called so that the nations of the world could extend asylum to Jews fleeing from the certain death that threatened them. The result of the deliberations of the great statesmen of the nations of the world at the meeting, many of them lands with vast empty spaces awaiting population, was a global total of some few hundreds of visas for an infinitesimal percentage of the Jews of Germany.

The present threat to over two million Jews finds a fundamental difference in situation. There is a State of Israel which has raised the proud and independent voice of the Jewish people not just as a community but as a nation with the cry "Let my people go" and has offered threatened Soviet Jewry a home.

From the rest of the world, there were the standard patterns of verbal sympathy and nothing more. But yesterday a voice was raised from the new world, redressing the moral balance of the old General Peron, the President of the Argentine, in a notable utterance threw the gates of his country open to any and every Jew who might escape from Soviet Russia and its satellite lands and should seek a new home in a new land.

It is by the power to do — not just say — the right thing at moments of moral crisis for mankind that the quality of a nation and its spokesmen is revealed. President Peron has added immeasurably to the moral stature of the Jewish people. He has thrown out a challenge to the rest of the nations: who must show how they have the only voice which has dared to speak righteousness.

## THE WORKING WEEK TOWARDS A SOUND ECONOMY

END of season sales began at the textile and footwear shops throughout the country and large crowds brought about 20 per cent increase in sales. Posters announcing price reductions adorned shop windows for the first time in five years, and people got the feeling that things are becoming normal once more.

People are becoming more difficult to please. They spend more than just two seconds in looking at goods, and as often as not they leave because they do not find exactly what they want, or because the quality is not up to standard or prices are too high.

On the surface all these things predicted by those advocating a free economy were happening: the abolition of rationing and the shortage of money seem to have led to an uncovering of supplies and so prices are going down. Looking at the position more closely, however, economists are pointing out certain flaws.

**Average Spending**  
The surplus of supply over demand, they argue, is due rather to scarcity of money resulting from increases in the price of food than to larger stocks. This was also indicated by research into the budget of the average wage earner in the cities. At the end of 1954, that is before the increase had made themselves fully felt, people were spending 43 per cent of their earnings on food, as compared with 36 per cent as an average in 1953-54. More money was paid for food and for electricity while less was being spent on furniture, books, recreation, clothing and shoes.

So far so good: we are lowering the relatively high standard of living which was completely inconsistent with low productivity of local produce on the market. The expected result, the lowering of wages in order to make Israeli goods competitive on the world market, has not materialized in spite of the rise of unemployment. In fact the cost-of-living index has continued to rise though admittedly at a slower rate, and the Government comprised of Mapai with their ideal of the Welfare State, on the one hand, and the General Zionists with their ideal of 19th century economic liberalism on the other, is burning the candle at both ends: There is a deflationary trend designed to cut prices by means of the consequent lower demand and at the same time public works to relieve unemployment are pumping money into the market by means of more or less non-productive investments.

The General Zionists, representing private business and small industry, have been called upon to explain why they have not effected the total revolution in economics hoped for when they entered the Government coalition. At a luncheon held this week in Jerusalem, Dr. F. Bernstein was asked by every Zionist representative business man and industrialist to account for this surprising delay. There is too much talk and not enough action, was the general tenor of the speeches.

**A Firm Stand**  
Dr. Bernstein answered equally clearly and to the point. Israel, and Palestine before the establishment of the State, had been living beyond her means for the last 20 years or so, and no one who is worried about this very real failing can expect a remedy within a month or two, he said. "Anyone who does, cannot have such basic changes in mind" referring obviously to those who are only concerned with an immediate rise in profits.

Dr. Bernstein had another courageous surprise up his sleeve: he declared that he was absolutely against so-called "non-payment imports" because this was in fact buying dollars on the black market. He was even more sceptical than the experts in banking and finance on the subject, claiming that only one per cent of such transactions were bona fide, as against the official estimate of three to four per cent.

Instead of non-payment imports, he suggested that there should be partial decontrol of foreign currency; of the 15 per cent of Israel's foreign currency income which are "private" imports by exports, he suggested that the Government should be allowed to export a certain amount of goods and capital transfers, for which there should be a free rate of exchange.

**Increase in Citrus Export Premium**  
The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Yehoshua Kuperman, announced that the Government was prepared to consider an increase of the export premium, above that fixed by the Government at the beginning of the season. The Government's decision was due to the fact that the exportable crop had exceeded the estimate at the beginning of the season, and was likely to reach the figure of 5 million crates provided that the required effort was made by the shippers.

After discussions it was unanimously resolved to ask the Government to grant an export premium of 10% for each crate exported over and above the 5 million figure.

## By S. Eliahu A SOUND ECONOMY



Posters and window displays all week attracted crowds in search of bargains. Photo by Eisenstark

fixed by supply and demand. Surprisingly enough, though, another top man in his Ministry disclosed that controls on imports would not be lifted as a result, but rather tightened. He explained that under the present circumstances demand for free currency is likely to exceed supply, thus pushing up the rates. Therefore imports would be naturally preferred to bring in luxury goods which allow for larger profits than basic commodities.

**First Things First**  
It is unfortunately the fact that proportionately more was allocated to non-productive investments than to vital industrial concerns: thus the only two instances in which estimates were exceeded, were Government buildings on which IL.1.5m. was spent, and religious buildings which exceeded their estimates by IL.45,000.

There were some complaints this week from members of the Hapoel Hamizrachi that Mr. I. Rokach, Minister of Interior, was dismissing members of that religious party from the posts in the Ministry. Looking at the problem more closely, other facts became clear, among them that 80 to 85 per cent of the officials in the Ministry belong to Hapoel Hamizrachi.

**Growing More Food**  
Mr. Hofien, Chairman of the Bank Leumi and one of Israel's foremost economists, however, sounded a warning note in a speech in Haifa: he maintained that Israel was very far from becoming the Switzerland of the Near East by earning its living by industrial exports. More stress should be laid upon agricultural production so that food and fodder imports could be cut. There were some indications that, with the freeing of the national economy, the rivalry between agriculture and industry would start in earnest. Not even the farmers denied that agricultural production in Israel is more expensive than abroad. The industrialists add that a ton of wheat or meat costs the Treasury less in dollars if they are imported, than if they are produced at home, where industry earns real value in foreign currency.

A calculation of the foreign currency budget figures shows, however, that the gross earnings on exports were about \$4m. only, even before the deduction of fuel and spare parts under the industrial export deductions.

The interim report on the 1952/53 Development Budget during the first nine months from April to December 1952, presented to members of the Knesset this week, showed that investments in agriculture were almost up to the target estimate, IL.37.1m. having been spent instead of IL.32.7 though the budget in general has been implemented only up to 80 per cent of the sum allocated. Expenditure for industrial development was much lower than estimated, only IL.10m. having been spent instead of IL.15m. Analysis shows that of IL.15m.

**Pleasant Facts...**  
of interest to everyone intending to buy a radio. The MINERVA RADIO "PALLAS" which is the most popular because of its many advantages, is fitted with all the newest technical parts.

**Certainly**  
every person owning a MINERVA RADIO "PALLAS", sees in it the perfection of everything he has ever wanted in a good radio.

**Distinctive**  
outer appearance and inner technical perfection combine to make the MINERVA RADIO "PALLAS" superior to others sold at the same or even higher prices.

## RENE MAYER'S TASK — Recasting French Constitution

By NORA BELL

THIS first preoccupation of the new French Government will be to reform the constitution in order to make France governable. At present, American governments can last four, eight or even 12 years; British governments normally last five; but French governments have an average life-span of five months and a bit. It is not yet certain whether M. Rene Mayer, the new Prime Minister, will survive long enough to reap the benefits of constitutional reform, and so reform his own duration. But there is no doubt that the experience of the last six years has convinced the French people that the Fourth Republic will have to be either reformed or abolished.

General Charles de Gaulle and his followers have attacked the 1946 constitution from its very beginnings and favoured its complete replacement by a new constitution. Now all the other parties, except the Communists, have publicly proclaimed themselves in favour of a revision of the constitution from its very beginning, and after a prolonged and fruitless policy of "all or nothing," the Gaullists themselves are now willing to cooperate on a programme of partial reform.

**Adjusting Balance of Power**  
Basically, the trouble with the present system is that the National Assembly has too much power and the Government not enough. No Prime Minister, however honourable his intentions, ever has the power and authority needed to impose a policy in the public interest in the face of opposing private interests which can obtain parliamentary support. With the patchwork of parties and the existence of coalition governments with narrow majorities, a pressure-group needs to secure only a few votes in order to hold the government at its mercy and to exercise a veto on national legislation.

M. Mayer has announced his intention of instituting two important reforms, both designed to strengthen the executive, and has singled out articles 13 and

31 of the constitution as his principal targets. The first of these is brief, but M. Mayer would like to make it bricker still. At present it reads: "The National Assembly alone can vote the laws. It cannot delegate this power." M. Mayer would like to suppress the second sentence and so authorize parliament to delegate its law-making powers to governments which would then be able to carry through unpopular measures without the constant threat of summary dismissal.

This freedom of action for the government existed under the Third Republic and was widely used in the pre-war years. The "Decree Law" as they were called, suspended many of the social reforms which had been introduced under the "Popular Front" coalition of Socialists, Communists and Radical-Socialists and thus became anathema to all the left-wing parties. But by 1946 the adherents of the old "Popular Front" were back in power and as the principal architects of the new constitution they wanted to make sure that the pre-war experience would never be repeated. Subsequently, however, even left-wing governments discovered that this total ban on the delegation of power gave Parliament far more work than it had time for; and often paralyzed the business of government altogether.

**English System Preferred**  
The second article which M. Mayer hopes to alter is number 31, which defines — and in doing so virtually eliminates — the right of a defeated government to dissolve the Assembly and hold new elections. In England, if Parliament dissolves the government, each member of Parliament usually has to go back to the country and risk his seat. But in France, deputies throwing out a government run no personal risk at all. Most French ministers or potential ministers would, for obvious reasons, prefer the British system.

Except where there is a very wide measure of agreement between everyone concerned, the constitution itself lays down that any revision of its text must be submitted to a popular referendum. The first preoccupation of the new French Government will be to reform the constitution in order to make France governable. At present, American governments can last four, eight or even 12 years; British governments normally last five; but French governments have an average life-span of five months and a bit. It is not yet certain whether M. Rene Mayer, the new Prime Minister, will survive long enough to reap the benefits of constitutional reform, and so reform his own duration. But there is no doubt that the experience of the last six years has convinced the French people that the Fourth Republic will have to be either reformed or abolished.

other audiences is doubtful, for the play has little to offer them. Their memories are made of different stuff. There were many surprises in the competent way many of the cast handled the singing parts and the ensembles were quite good. Ada Tal, Neumi Shein and Yitzhak Ben-Zvi carried the burden of the singing. Nahum Buchman showed that the younger generation of Habimah actors can impersonate so-called Jewish types credibly. Raphael Klavkin's interpretation of Ibsen's Gribler, the prompter, was delightful and Israel Becker both sang and played the seedy actor, Adolf Schlinger, with much humour. But then all of the large cast played their parts very well.

**IDA S. DAVIDOWITZ**  
The 3rd General Convention of the Association of Physiotherapists in Israel will be held at "Beth-Zvi" in Ramat Gan, on Friday and Saturday, February 6-7, 1955. Opening Friday at 2 p.m. sharp. CENTRAL THEME: POLIOMYELITIS

**INTERNATIONAL BOOKSELLERS**  
Authorized Agents of McGraw-Hill and other leading publishers. Guaranteed speediest execution of SUBSCRIPTIONS (new and renewal), BOOK ORDERS as well as orders for BACK NUMBERS. MEMBERSHIP in International Bookshellers' Association. INTERNATIONAL BOOKSELLERS 25 Albany Road, P.O. Box 1000, Tel Aviv.

**THE OPERATION IS COMPLETED COURTESY CONTINUES!**  
The last day of January has come and with it the end of "Operation Courtesy," which was introduced by the Dan Bus Company to improve relations between the public and the drivers. The Company cannot pretend to take pride in having solved the problem of courtesy within the short period of two months, or that from now on passengers and drivers will welcome each other with smiles! We wish every success to all those who follow our example to make courtesy the rule of the day in the State of Israel, and we thank the public and our workers, who devotedly undertook the task of this operation and contributed to its success. It is our hope that courtesy will continue although the Operation has ended and that this example will be emulated in the future and become the pride of all those who helped in its initiation and the benefit of all those who follow it.

**"DAN"**  
Be Courteous and Follow Us — When You're Travelling in a Bus  
Headquarters: 12 Herzl Square, Tel Aviv.

## Men and Things

As a rule business and science get along very well together. The scientist discovers chlorophyll, the business man puts it into toothpaste, and thus they shift mankind a trifle higher up the spiral of evolution (in exchange for a moderate cash outlay). From heights reached by such assistance men can feel nothing but patronage and pity for poor dear coelocanth, left flopping in the Indian Ocean millions of years ago.

Thus it is brains in the laboratory plus astuteness in the market which raise us all. How saddening then are those occasions when science and business fall out. This is now happening in India, oddly enough because of the moon's eclipse last night. The astronomer, had declared that the eclipse would not be visible to Indians. At once there has been an indignant reaction by vested interests. Many Indians normally regard an eclipse as an evil omen; but it is possible to guard against harm by giving charity to certain persons known as pandas. In other words, the business of the pandas is to sell policies of lunar insurance. One can easily enter into the exasperation of these insurers when an observatory announces that so far as India is concerned there was no going to be an eclipse at all. In face of such bad publicity, moon coverage at once slumped into a buyers' market. The union of pandas then issued a prompt statement stating that the public could count upon the eclipse being visible, but could also rely upon protection at the usual terms. Nevertheless, it is great pity, one feels, if so non-controversial an event as the moon's eclipse cannot occur without a reckless disregard of legitimate interests. W.L.R.

**Readers' Letters**  
ZIONISM NOT ENOUGH  
Sir, — I read with great pleasure the contribution by Baruch Hochmann in the issue of January 16 "Back to Judaism — or Zionism?" He attributes the revival of Judaism in the U.S. as due in part to a sense of guilt on the part of the American Jew who is unwilling to settle in Israel. But I should like to suggest another explanation. Since the creation of the State, Jewish youth cannot any longer find complete satisfaction in Zionist ideals. The agricultural and industrial expansion of Israel may be a joy to the people concerned, but it can hardly fulfil the spiritual needs of the Jew. Judaism is far more than a longing for a secular State. It is the far-fetched to assume that the genius of the Jewish people is preparing alternative centres of Judaism since Israel is subject to the vicissitudes of any secular State.

**FACE TREATMENT REMOVAL OF HAIR "Ritta"**  
BEAUTY PARLOUR 11 David St., Ramat Gan.

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through our convenient, modern, efficient and individualized Correspondence Course. You commence with the Alphabet, and a wealth of exercises, reading, short stories, conversation, etc., will enable you to quickly acquire working knowledge of Modern Hebrew (1,500 essential words).

**SPECIAL GIFT**  
for your relatives and friends abroad: A HEBREW COURSE FROM JERUSALEM where we receive and correct Hebrew lessons from all parts of the world. Apply today for full particulars: THE HEBREW TUTORIAL INSTITUTE OF JERUSALEM in association with THE BRITISH INSTITUTES 2 Rehov Ben Yehuda, P.O. Box 1258, Jerusalem. 12 Rothschild Boulevard, P.O. Box 487, Tel Aviv. 5 Bank St., P.O. Box 1474, Haifa.

**"KADIMAH" SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES**  
14 Rehov Ben Yehuda, Tel Aviv  
**NOTICE**  
On Monday and Tuesday (February 1, 2) the following new courses will be opened:  
HEBREW: For Beginners: 4-5 p.m., 6-7 p.m., 8-9 p.m., 9-10 p.m. For Advanced: during the morning and evening hours.  
ENGLISH: For Advanced: during all the evening hours. Special courses for students of the elementary and secondary schools: 3-4, 4-5 p.m. For Beginners: 5-6 p.m. For Advanced: 6-7, 7-8 p.m.  
Information and Registration: Sunday and Monday from 9 a.m. — 12 noon; 3-9 p.m.

**HANITA'S QUANDARY**  
Hanita's compelling personality, enhanced by her engaging smile, seemed to lose for a while its usual fragrance: she sold a pair of shoes for IL.4, and on receiving a ten-pound note, changed it at a neighbour's, giving the customer the pair of shoes and 2 pounds change. As the ten-pound note proved to be forged, she had to give to the neighbour a new ten-pound note. How much did Hanita lose?  
Fruit and smiling plots for sale in Nathanya, Herta, Ramat Gan. A three-room, partly furnished, villa with garage, next to Sharon Hotel — to let for 1-2 years. An imposing 5-room villa in Shikun Dan, for sale — IL.30,000. 11-5-room flat, fully furnished — last word of luxury — in Ramat Gan "B" for sale — IL.5,000. A 2-3 room shop, to let in the vicinity of Rehov Herzl — Ramat Gan.  
We beg to inform our clients that we have opened a new department to deal with mortgages. We are prepared to place mortgages for you on first-class security. If you need a mortgage — do come to us. M. ROMAS & CO. 8 Rothschild Blvd., Tel. 3441 P.O. Box 67, Tel Aviv. The firm that makes and keeps friends.



## Year's Bitter Fighting Settled Nothing in Korea

### BATTLE of the RIDGES

By PATRICK O'DONOVAN

SEOUL

THE Korean war front is now

quieter than at any time since

the summer of 1951. It looks

as if some climax has been

passed, another milestone on

the road that leads nowhere.

This phase in the Korean fight-

ing has lasted 14 months: it has

settled precisely nothing. The

phase began on November 27,

1951, when the demarcation

line for a cease fire was set

up by the Armistice Commis-

sion at Panmunjom. The truce

never came, but the agreed

lines created the pattern for

the next year's fighting, which

cost the enemy an estimated

350,000 casualties.

The front in Korea is only

200 kms. long and the advances

and retreats have been mea-

sured in metres rather than

kilometres. The fighting has

been small in scale and the pat-

tern of assault and defence has

been monotonous and has re-

sulted in no important changes.

But it has been as tough for

individual soldiers as other

wars. Platoon in Korea have

fought as hard and suffered as

bitterly as any in Normandy.

Local battles for bare hills, like

White Horse Hill on the central

front, have within a space the

size of a few football fields

been as fierce and bloody as

any of the battles for Pacific

islands in the last war.

The disputed no-man's-land

that lies between the two un-

changing fortified lines must

now be the world's best-known

military terrain. Every over-

grown track, each outcrop of

rock, every hillock and grove

of scattered and splintered trees

has been accurately registered

by mortars and artillery and

can be covered with fire at a

few seconds' notice. Every

square yard has been crept over

by armed patrols at night.

Murderous Corridor

The murderous corridor

varying in width from two kilo-

metres to 500 metres, was first

used for the bitter November

fighting of 1951. In that month

the enemy lost an estimated

40,000 casualties in an attempt

to better his bargaining position

at the conference table. But

peace never came and the

two armies settled to the con-

tinuous business of digging in,

of fortifying their hilltops and

of probing and skirmishing

among the weed-grown rice

fields and the bare tops of hills

that lay between them.

By February, 1952, the pat-

tern of a creeping offensive

was apparent; it is an offensive

that has never quite stopped

and that has never shown any

obvious signs of being affected

by the heavy air attacks on

the Chinese lines of commu-

nication. For most of this phase,

it has been the Chinese who

have begun limited offensives,

inching forward from one feature

to another and fortifying each

place as they occupied it, until

the United Nations' forces

were compelled to counter-

attack in self-defence.

Nibbling Tactics

To sustain their nibbling at-

tacks, the Chinese concentrated

huge quantities of ammunition

in their forward positions,

hidden in deep tunnels below

their hills. In one small bunker,

for example, an American raid-

ing party found 15,000 hand

grenades and 1,000 of the

"Bangalore" torpedoes that in-

fantry use to destroy an enemy's

barbed wire.

But if the Chinese continually

reinforced their troops and

seemed almost indifferent to

casualties, the United Nations

troops were not. Early in March

the ROK Army made its first

really successful counter-attack.

Early in this war, the American and

Commonwealth troops had learnt to

expect little of the ROK forces.

They broke disastrously many

times. The ROK Sixth Division

won a rare reputation for use-

lessness. But in April, the ROKs

were fighting as well as the

Chinese — the result of good

training, of new equipment and

of a new certainty that their

country had a chance of surviv-

ing. They now defended nearly

three-quarters of the line.

They had to do the toughest

and costliest fighting of the

year. At the beginning of

April, they were defending a

hill on the central front. The

order of the day from the

Korean commander was "No

Yogi Berra" — "Stay and

Fight." When the Chinese at-

tacked, their battalion lost al-

most all its officers and N.C.O.s,

but the surviving ROKs drove

the Chinese back.

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THE STATIC FRONT LINE IN KOREA

But the worst fighting of all

started in October, when the

Chinese attacked more than 30

hill positions all along the line.

On one day they fired 90,000

rounds. Their main attack was

in the centre on White Horse

Hill. Five Chinese brigades

were engaged and as one bat-

talion was driven back, another

took its turn to struggle to-

wards the hill. It lasted ten

days. The main attack was

in the centre on White Horse

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## U.S. Lead In Naval Power

By LEO HEIMAN

A

CCORDING to a survey pub-

lished by the Supreme Com-

mand of the North Atlantic

Treaty Organization last week,

the combined NATO naval

strength is more than 6,000

fighting ships and 1,600,000 men.

Of the NATO countries, the

United States has not only the

biggest navy in the world but

one that is also stronger than

all other navies put together.

Britain and Russia included.

Of the 131 aircraft carriers in

existence 100 belong to the

United States, 26 to the British

Commonwealth, three to France,

one to the Netherlands and one

to Belgium. Furthermore, the

United States has not only the

biggest navy in the world but

one that is also stronger than

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## STORY OF A CONCIERGE Art of Living

By HENRIETTE BOAS

WHEN the concierge of the Israel Consulate at Amsterdam, Mr. Alfons Fink, celebrated his 50th birthday the other day, hundreds came to shake hands with him (not to speak of the messages he received), including practically everyone who is prominent in Jewish Amsterdam. Most of them left the premises of the Consulate well past midnight, after a full evening of entertainment, with performances by several friends both old and new and last not least by Mr. Fink himself.

Twenty years ago Alfons Fink was a well-known actor on the German stage, in the first place of character roles. He was loved by tens of thousands in Hamburg, Vienna and Berlin, where he was one of the stars of the famous "Kabarett der Komiker". In Breslau, his hometown, he occupied the influential position of a superintendent of the city's combined theatres and as such was surrounded by several telephones which never left him at peace. Today telephones continue to persecute him, but now in his cubicle at the Israel Consulate at Amsterdam.

### Emigrated to Holland

When Hitler came to power Fink could no longer appear on the German stage, and became one of the founders of the Judische Kulturbund for the Rhine-Ruhr region. In 1933 he emigrated to Holland, where he appeared in the Judische Kulturbund. "La Galle," under Rudolf Nalewsky who had directed his plays in Berlin, during the war he and his wife were hidden by a religious non-Jewish Dutch family. After the war, he did not like the idea of his colleagues return to Germany but became the manager of a Jewish community center, where Jewish social evenings were held with Mr. Fink as the heart and soul of the party. The way in which and how Mr. Fink ran this club made it the meeting place for all Jewish society. Coming to look of Jews the Ben Am had to close down in 1948, and the building was acquired by the Israel Consulate and Mr. Fink stayed on as concierge and housekeeper.

No one who calls at the Consulate for the first time feels anything incongruous in the quiet, kindly, middle-aged little man who answers the door or the telephone with never-failing courtesy and replies to enquiries in several European languages, to which he has now added a little Hebrew.

### Radio Review

## Links with History

LET us now praise famous men," decides Kol Yisrael, and flings itself into its resolution with such gusto that almost consecutively there are programmes on Max Nordau and Nahum Sokolow. But as long as the quality is high, we should not care if this profusion of riches. The talk on Nahum Sokolow was the first of a series to be given after the news on Wednesday evening. Leading personalities will come to the microphone to recall some of the giants of the past whom they have known personally. This is an admirable conception and offers great scope. There is always something appealing in the personal link with great men of other times and other lands, and talks of this nature give an opportunity to describe history and its insights. From the first subjects, it appears to be intended to limit the series to reminiscences of great Jews.

Nor would one guess that this concierge was once a celebrated artist. Yet, when at the conclusion of his birthday party he himself gave a sample of his art, he "brought the house down."

The secret of his successful transformation no doubt lies in that he has proved to be an artist in real life as well as on the stage. He has stepped out of the scenes of his world of yesterday and has found satisfaction in playing his part in helping to build the State of Israel which, as a birthday present, he and his wife may visit in the near future.

## Spinsters and Statistics

ISRAEL, it must be admitted, is losing attraction for spinsters of all ages. In former years, Jewish Palestine suffered from a perceptible lack of females and many came to the country eager to marry. Gradually, the natural balance between the sexes is being restored. In the past year, there was a further drop in the percentage of males among the Jewish population which fell from 52 per cent in 1949 to 50.9 per cent. But there is one compensation for Israel's women; they live longer than their male partners. While the average life expectancy of men is 67.5 years, that of women is over 70. On the other hand, life in the Diaspora does not seem beneficial to the male either: for 30 per cent of all female immigrants in 1951, of 15 years and over, were widows. Altogether, Israel's of both sexes lived longer in that year; the level rose by 1 per cent.

The capital vindicated her reputation by having the highest birth rate in the country (34.3 per thousand) far above Tel Aviv with 26.1, and Haifa with 24.7. With so many old people among her inhabitants, this record is all the more commendable, although statisticians attribute it to her large Oriental community.

### Marriage Drop

Though statistics have helped to prolong the average life of the Israeli, it has not acted as a "shadchan." In the past year, only 11,000 per thousand residents got married as compared with 14,500 in the year before. In 1952, only six million letters went out by air, in addition to 1,815,000 by sea. Deducting the countless business firms, public offices and institutions with their inflated volume of mail, it appears that communications with the Diaspora are left to a minority of the population.

### Knesset Debate

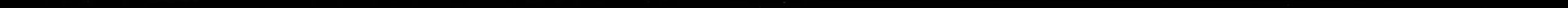
The most exciting broadcast of the week was the Knesset debate on the Russian-made radio and Kol Yisrael deserves full marks for giving us the full rough-and-tumble with all the interjections and uproar. They even included some of the grosser Vilenskisms, perhaps proving that one of the most effective weapons against Communism is to let the nation hear the conduct of Communist M.C.'s in the Knesset. The speaker brought Mr. Moshe Sharet to the studio for a Press Conference. The Foreign Minister was rather less suave than usual but the programme was absorbing. I still wish Mr. Sharet would broadcast regular interviews to the nation; the recorded Press Conference is no substitute as the subjects are chosen by the newspapermen, the general direction is in the hands of the moderator, while the "star" himself is inevitably somewhat on the defensive.

The most remarkable event of the week was a record request programme without a word from Danon. He was the subject of an item of news in that legislation is to be introduced in Mexico permitting radio and television to be fun at the government.

### ON THE AIR

JERUSALEM: 50.1, 50.2, 50.3, 50.4, 50.5, 50.6, 50.7, 50.8, 50.9, 51.0, 51.1, 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.5, 51.6, 51.7, 51.8, 51.9, 52.0, 52.1, 52.2, 52.3, 52.4, 52.5, 52.6, 52.7, 52.8, 52.9, 53.0, 53.1, 53.2, 53.3, 53.4, 53.5, 53.6, 53.7, 53.8, 53.9, 54.0, 54.1, 54.2, 54.3, 54.4, 54.5, 54.6, 54.7, 54.8, 54.9, 55.0, 55.1, 55.2, 55.3, 55.4, 55.5, 55.6, 55.7, 55.8, 55.9, 56.0, 56.1, 56.2, 56.3, 56.4, 56.5, 56.6, 56.7, 56.8, 56.9, 57.0, 57.1, 57.2, 57.3, 57.4, 57.5, 57.6, 57.7, 57.8, 57.9, 58.0, 58.1, 58.2, 58.3, 58.4, 58.5, 58.6, 58.7, 58.8, 58.9, 59.0, 59.1, 59.2, 59.3, 59.4, 59.5, 59.6, 59.7, 59.8, 59.9, 60.0, 60.1, 60.2, 60.3, 60.4, 60.5, 60.6, 60.7, 60.8, 60.9, 61.0, 61.1, 61.2, 61.3, 61.4, 61.5, 61.6, 61.7, 61.8, 61.9, 62.0, 62.1, 62.2, 62.3, 62.4, 62.5, 62.6, 62.7, 62.8, 62.9, 63.0, 63.1, 63.2, 63.3, 63.4, 63.5, 63.6, 63.7, 63.8, 63.9, 64.0, 64.1, 64.2, 64.3, 64.4, 64.5, 64.6, 64.7, 64.8, 64.9, 65.0, 65.1, 65.2, 65.3, 65.4, 65.5, 65.6, 65.7, 65.8, 65.9, 66.0, 66.1, 66.2, 66.3, 66.4, 66.5, 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## THE LIFE OF HAROLD LASKI

comment regretting that Lasker postponed a visit to renaissance Israel after the establishment

of the State." If he had gone to Israel, he would have seen the dream of his life realized, though imperfectly, and on a small scale. He would have seen a country which was both Socialist and Jewish. In the United States, indeed, having been in London and lectured at the Hebrew University in the year in which he died.

Beyond his fame as scholar, political philosopher and prolific author, Harold Laski excelled as a teacher and a generous friend of his students. Each one of them was for him a person to be helped and guided. He had an absolute sense of human equality, and that gave him a profound influence over students from the continents of Asia and from Africa. For he understood both their resentments and their aspirations. For his Jewish students, whether from England or from Israel, he had a special sympathy; and in all parts of the world he would rise and praise him in eulogies. "They will enjoy this biographical memoir.

of Jericho

### Letter From London

Following the great autumnal publishing season and the friv-

assumes that the economic geography of that region—fertility and abundance of water—conditioned the very beginning of an urban community in Neolithic Jericho. All other communities of this stage discovered hitherto in the Ancient East were of the village type exclusively.

The question now arises whether Jericho is indeed the oldest known city in the world? In the light of the recent findings

the answer is apparently in the affirmative, and it is expected further excavations will confirm this result. Modern methods of dating organic substances by radio-activity will enable a more accurate dating of this period.

The most important and richest tombs were as usual from the middle bronze age. Besides other finds they contained unusual articles, such as small wooden objects in the form of pomegranates, combs, wooden platters and bowls, remains of

Still, the question puzzling the student of Biblical archaeology has not been settled. Constructions from the early and middle

bronze ages were unearthed; but there remains a gap of 900 years in the period from 1800-700 B.C., the time of Joshua and the Judges. Dr. Kenyon explains this gap by denudation of the upper levels of the Tell and by quarrying operations at the

mount. Apart from this unsolved problem, the excavations have contributed a new chapter to the archaeology of the ancient Middle East.

ance, in industry, in the armed forces, in psychiatric practice and child care. Two appendices on basic concepts of statistical analysis in psychology and on technique of test administration

## JANUARY 30, 1953

The material is well ordered, style and presentation are clear. The author is careful on each basic problem, and the discussion of their relative merits is competent and objective. Some more recent developments, especially in the theory of intelligent structure, and also in statistical analysis are not mentioned.

Students and administrators alike will find this book most helpful. It will also appeal to all those interested in the fascinating problem of studying the mind and soul of man and of applying the knowledge so acquired to the improvement of

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